

8 April 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: All NIOs

SUBJECT : The 3 April de Poix Directive

1. Attached is a document all of you should see. It has some tricky aspects. On the one hand, it underlines the role DIA was indeed set up to play, namely that of being the senior member of the military intelligence community and the switchpoint through which the service intelligence components should deal with the USIB and the latter's Chairman, i.e., the DCI. Nonetheless, Vince is making his point in a very starchy way and in language which -- if literally construed -- would preclude any direct dialogue between the NIOs and the service intelligence components or the heads thereof. In the real world, such a ban on even essential direct communication would cause needless problems -- particularly since the service components' chiefs (and their subordinates) are human with a full range of human emotions, which will make them disinclined to go out of their way to help people who cannot/will not talk directly to them.

2. At this stage, I do not plan to argue directly with Vince about his 3 April memo since having signed and issued it, Vince is now publicly out on a limb, off of which he could not climb without some loss of face. If we are lucky, his directive will not be enforced or carried out to the letter. If this proves to be the case and the degree of essential communication between the NIOs and the service components can in fact continue, then no damage will have been done. On the other hand, if we find after a couple of weeks that a roadblock inhibiting essential dialogue has in fact been established and looks reasonably permanent, I will have to try to get the written ground rules slightly modified. Please keep me advised of the impact of this directive (if any is discernible) on each of your individual areas.

George A. Carver, Jr.

Deputy for National Intelligence Officers

Attachment

cc: DCI

1 - D/NIO Chrono

1 - NIO/RT

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